

**Introduced by Senator Sher**

February 21, 2003

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An act to amend Section 21087 of the Public Resources Code, relating to environmental quality.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 945, as introduced, Sher. Environmental quality: guidelines.

The existing California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires a lead agency to prepare, or cause to be prepared, and certify the completion of, an environmental impact report on a project, as defined, that it proposes to carry out or approve that may have a significant effect on the environment, or to adopt a negative declaration if it finds that the project will not have that effect. CEQA requires the Office of Planning and Research (OPR) to prepare and develop proposed guidelines for the implementation of CEQA by public agencies. CEQA requires that the guidelines contain various objectives, criteria, and procedures, as specified. CEQA requires OPR, at least once every 2 years, to review the guidelines and recommend changes or amendments to the Secretary of the Resources Agency. CEQA requires the Secretary of the Resources Agency to certify and adopt guidelines at least once every 2 years.

CEQA requires OPR to recommend proposed changes and the secretary to certify and adopt revisions to the guidelines to reflect changes enacted during the 1993–94 Regular Session of the Legislature within 6 months of the enactment of AB 314 of the 1993–94 Regular Session of the Legislature.

This bill would delete the requirements summarized in the preceding paragraph.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Section 21087 of the Public Resources Code is  
2 amended to read:  
3 21087. ~~(a) The Office of Planning and Research shall, at least~~  
4 ~~once every two years, review the guidelines adopted pursuant to~~  
5 ~~Section 21083 and shall recommend proposed changes or~~  
6 ~~amendments to the Secretary of the Resources Agency. The~~  
7 ~~Secretary of the Resources Agency shall certify and adopt~~  
8 ~~guidelines, and any amendments thereto, at least once every two~~  
9 ~~years, pursuant to Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340)~~  
10 ~~of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code, which~~  
11 ~~shall become effective upon the filing thereof. However,~~  
12 ~~guidelines shall may not be adopted or amended without~~  
13 ~~compliance with Sections 11346.4, 11346.5, and 11346.8 of the~~  
14 ~~Government Code.~~  
15 ~~(b) Within six months of the enactment of AB 314 of the~~  
16 ~~1993-94 Regular Session of the Legislature, the Office of~~  
17 ~~Planning and Research shall recommend proposed changes and~~  
18 ~~the Secretary of the Resources Agency shall certify and adopt~~  
19 ~~revisions to the guidelines pursuant to Section 21083 to reflect the~~  
20 ~~changes to this division enacted during the 1993-94 Regular~~  
21 ~~Session of the Legislature.~~

